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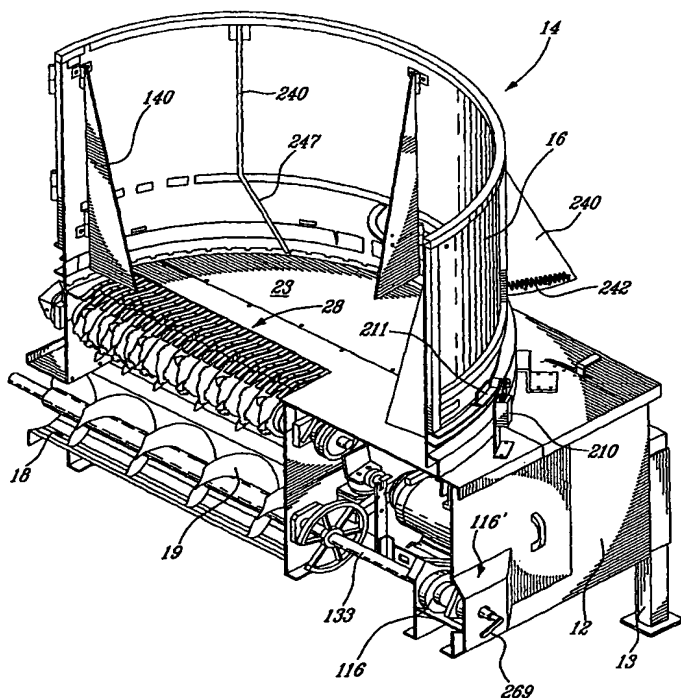
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ance Notes on Codes and Abbreviations" appearing at the begin-
ning of each regular issue of the PCT Gazette.*

(54) Title: HAY BALE PROCESSOR



(57) Abstract: A hay bale processor (10) having a cylindrical rotatable drum (14) adapted to displace a bale of hay (156-157) over a grill (26) which has a plurality of spaced-apart parallel slot openings (27) which are adjustable to define an average fiber cut length. A rotor (28) driven by an electric motor (66-67) has cutting blades (35) projecting through the openings (160) to contact a bottom face (159) of a bale of hay (160) displaced over the grill. The rotor has a driveable shaft (29) secured to a displaceable suspension mechanism (45) to displace the blades (35) in the openings and above the grill a variable distance depending on the resistive load applied. The displaceable suspension mechanism (45) is biased upwardly by an air

cylinder (50) or air cushion device (280) to maintain a substantially constant pressure on the displaceable suspension such that when the load on the cutting knives of the rotor are subjected to a force exceeding the predetermined pressure of the cylinder the rotor is displaced whereby a substantially constant drive torque is maintained on the electric motor driving the shaft (29) of the rotor (28).

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

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A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

IPC 7 A01F29/00

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

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Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

EPO-Internal

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
A	US 4 134 554 A (MORLOCK RUBEN D) 16 January 1979 (1979-01-16) column 3, line 34 -column 4, line 40 figures 1-4 ---	1,2,18, 25
A	US 4 846 411 A (HERRON MAYNARD M ET AL) 11 July 1989 (1989-07-11) column 5, line 15 - line 48 figures 1-3 ---	1,2,20, 34
A	EP 0 407 112 A (KIDD FARM MACHINERY) 9 January 1991 (1991-01-09) column 5, line 41 -column 7, line 26 figures 1,2,4 --- -/-	1,2,27, 34



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Patent family members are listed in annex.

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C.(Continuation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
A	<p>US 3 966 128 A (ANDERSON JOSEPH A ET AL) 29 June 1976 (1976-06-29)</p> <p>column 2, line 15 -column 5, line 20 figures 1-3</p> <p>---</p>	<p>1,10-12, 18,25, 34,35</p>
A	<p>US 5 653 394 A (TOPPING GILBERT ET AL) 5 August 1997 (1997-08-05)</p> <p>column 3, line 42 -column 4, line 31 figures 5,6</p> <p>-----</p>	<p>1,34</p>

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

information on patent family members

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